WYOMING QUARTERLY EARLY INTERVENTION COUNCIL THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009 CHEYENNE

Members Present (phone conference): Diana Currah, Laurene Hines, Mike Massie, Sara Mofield, Lori Morrow, Carolyn Paseneaux, Darlena Schlachter, Betsy Schmick, Connie Strayer, Laurie Westlake, Lloyd Wilder, Susan Wiley, Carol Picket, Christine Bullinger, Melody Tuinman-Love, Kimberly Bock and Jana Reade

Wyoming Developmental Disabilities Division Staff Present: Cliff Mikesell, Christine Demers, Belinda McCluskey, and Carol Maliszewski

Call to Order: Chairperson Susan Wiley called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM. A quorum of the Council was present.

Additions to the Agenda: NICU contacts

BUSINESS

Review of January 22, 2009 EIC Minutes: Lori Morrow moved and Laurie Westlake seconded to approve the minutes of the Council's meeting on January 22, 2009; passed unanimously with one typographical error.

Old Business

Data System Update - Sara Mofield

Sara reported that the new data system has to go through an RFP, Administration, and the data unit in the Department of Health before it will be approved. Still waiting on the release of the RFP. Dr. Lynch will continue so there are no gaps between data systems.

Child Count - Sara Mofield

Sara reported the November 1, 2008 count, rules are now permanent. The DDD will use the same process for the November and December counts in 2009 as were used in November and December 2008. November 1, 2008, Part C count was 1145; Part B count was 1584, for a total of 3729. The minor errors in number reported at the last EIC meeting were due to errors in the collection because this was the first time the Child Development Centers went through this process.

Birth to One Child Find Task Force Report - Christine DeMers

Christine reported that on March 26, 2009 surveys were sent out to the Regional Child Development Centers and 10 regions responded. All CDCs are doing similar events to promote Child Find such as public screenings, bulletin boards around the State, posters, radio ads, and referrals from physicians. Often the connection between hospitals/physicians and the Regional CDCs effect child find in the birth to one group. There was discussion on changing the One before Two title. Families are often waiting until their child is closer to their second birthday. Mike Massie shared that last year there were approximately 9000 screenings completed around the State. Screenings are conducted year round but mostly in the months August through October. There was discussion about desecrating the screening data by age, looking into sending out post cards, with new modifications, soon after the child is born and looking into revising some of the radio ads to focus on the birth to one group. In 2007 the number of Part C children served increased by 19% and Part B children served increase by 7%. There was also a discussion about the screening tools currently being used; most are not normed for children under 4 months of age. Other states use screening provided by a physician. Jana Reade suggested adding to the ad campaigns that they can come out to homes to provide the screening. The target of 2.0% for Indicator 5, child find for birth to one, has been discussed in previous EIC meetings as too high and will be reviewed at the appropriate time in future EIC meetings.

Waiver Waiting List - Cliff Mikesell

Cliff reported that there are 216 on the child waiver list, 99 on the adult waiver list and 48 on the brain injury waiver waiting list. The priority is to those children aging out of the child waiver and moving to the adult waiver list. On May 4, 2009 the Wyoming Department of Health presented to the Governor. WDH is still waiting on word from the Governor on budget cuts. The Craig report is due out May 21, 2009.

New Business

Part B APR and Report Cards - Carol Maliszewski

Carol reported that this APR FFY 2007-08 we reported on all children in all regions data systemically. We continue to not report on Indicator 6, Preschool settings. The new proposed revision to the preschool education environments went out for public comment on March 24, 2009. As a State we met targets for Indicator 8, Parent Involvement. We did not meet targets for Indicator 11, Child Find and Indicator 12 Part C to Part B transition.

Part C Report Cards – Christine DeMers

Christine reported that report cards have been sent out to the CDCs. As a State we meet the targets for Indicators 2, Natural Environment and Indicator 6, Child Find Birth to 3. As a State we did not meet the targets for Indicators 1, Timely Services, Indicator 5, Child Find Birth to 1, Indicator 7, Timeliness of IFSPs and did not meet targets for all areas of Indicator 8, Early Childhood Transitions. The child find indicators percentages vary from Region to Region. There are concerns about why some Regions are low and some are very high. The National average is 1.06%. Wyoming average is 1.7%. Indicators 5 and 6 are not used is determinations.

Proposed 2009 Part C Application - Christine DeMers

Christine reported that the proposed 2009 Part C Application can be viewed at http://wdh.state.wy.us/ddd/earlychildhood/publicreview.html. The application is out for public viewing until May 9, 2009. After May 9, 2009 the application goes to OSEP.

The new Part C regulations are not out yet.

2008-2009 Regional Monitoring - Sara Mofield

Sara reported the EIEP will be monitoring 5 regions this year. We have been seeing so good information and some not so well. For monitoring we conduct an extensive look at date, file review and practices in the Region. This past year we have look closely at actual services being provided. When we complete all monitorings this year, the EIEP will present a report to the EIC concerning our findings. We continue to work with the Regions who were monitored last year and submitted a corrective action plan. The University of Wyoming helps with some trainings for the Regions along with technical assistance and improvements activities in DEC Recommended Practices.

Funding - Developmental CDC s - Sara Mofield

All state agencies in the state of Wyoming have been asked to present budgets with 5% and 10% cuts in their budgets. The DDD is giving recommendations to our Director. Cliff shared each agency must give budgets with 5% and 10% cuts to the Governor. The Governor has the ability to choose to accept those reductions. In the WDH, about 90% goes to the direct care of individuals.

Social-Emotional Program - Sara Mofield and Mike Massie

Mike reported that the beginning of this project cam out of the EIC four years ago. There was a two year pilot program. In July 2007 the project received legislative funding. It has taken two years to build the capacity of this project. The number of trainings from the modules has increased this year to 170 trainings. All basic modules have been present in all the Regions this year. TA follow up after the modules have been presented in addition to direct services. We now have 57 individuals working in the field of infant mental health.

The University of Wyoming, College of Education has formed two certificate programs for Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Mental Health. Track one is for licensed helping professionals (i.e. counseling, social work, clinical psychology) with tow years of post-graduate work experience. A Masters level program with Mike Morgan. Track two is for educators, special educators and other early childhood service providers (speech pathologist, occupational therapists, physical therapists, social worker, nurse) with tow years of work in early childhood. A Bachelor level program with Michelle Buchannan.

The contract with YCS ends in June 2009. They have been visiting the entire regional program. Sara thanked YCS and CDS for all their work in this field.

This group is in the process of starting an Infant Mental Health professional group.

Legislation - Mike Massie

Mike reported the Children First Finance program (loan program to child care centers) failed to pass. Also the Kid Care bill failed to pass.

2009 Wyoming Early Intervention and Education Conference - Belinda McCluskey

Belinda reported that this year's conference will be August 10-13, 2009 at the Hitching Post in Cheyenne. This year we are doing all day sessions. The first full day will be a presentation by Lenora Knudson, an attorney to discuss special education and the law. The second full day with be presentations by Cory Pierce a professor at Northern Colorado University and Janey Hickle with MPRRC.

NICU contacts - Lori Morrow

Lori presented to the Wyoming Maternal Child Health Unit on April 23 in Lander. There as discussion around the concerns about babies coming out of the NICU units to their home communities. Looking for referrals from the hospital to community programs. Suggested that the EIC work with the local ICCs to put together referral sources in their local communities. Susan Wiley reported that some of this is happening with home visiting nurses, though there are some frustrations with HIPPA restrictions.

Next Meeting – July 16, 2009 – Thermolopolis

Adjournment

Diana Currah moved and Laurene Hines seconded adjournment. Motion passed unanimously.